



*a monthly publication of interest to constituents of Fresno County Supervisorial District 2*

# ANDERSON

## *Advisory*

Volume II

Issue 7

July 2002

Budget crunching continues as we trek into the new fiscal year, with revenue streams evaporating like rain in the Valley. Signals from Sacramento don't spell relief. County staff members are pouring over the numbers, their creative juices flowing, in an attempt to eke out compromises to stanching services to constituents. Stay attuned.

*Susan*

## Measure C

One of the most successful initiatives to maximize local tax dollars has been Measure "C", the half cent sales tax. If approved by voters in November, the extension of Measure "C" is projected to bring in \$2.8 billion over its 30-year life. The Supervisors recently approved its placement on the Fall ballot. The local Business Council noted, "...Besides providing for a balanced system, it addresses the needs of the disabled community, non-motorized facilities for pedestrians and cyclists, and has the flexibility that will encourage "transportation for livable communities". Some groups, such as the League of Women Voters, feel the measure falls short in addressing transportation concerns. "This November's vote will be a referendum on sprawl, air pollution, and the epidemic of asthma that plagues our county," declared Kevin Hall of the Sierra Club. "I'm confident voters will deliver a very strong message that they understand need for intelligent transportation planning and reject Measure C. We can then get to work on a good Measure C for 2004." This ballot item deserves your consideration.

## Voter homework

Summer is a great time to relax and get caught up on your reading. On the conscientious voter's reading list are abstracts about the ballot propositions. California's largest ever state school bond measure will appear on the ballot in both 2002 and 2004. Of the total package, about \$21 billion is earmarked for construction and modernization of K-12 schools and about \$4 billion for

the state's public colleges. Charter schools would receive \$400 million. Also note AB 2588 (Hertzberg), which would promote community planning and facilitate joint use of school sites as centers of communities.

## New library

A final report is due this summer on plans to construct a new library facility in downtown Fresno. Among the sites being considered is a location in the heart of the developing “museum district,” so named due to its proximity to the Metropolitan Museum and Artes Americas. Library staff will be working with the advisory committee and the County Administrative Office to schedule the presentation regarding site and the building program to the Board of Supervisors following the receipt of the final consultant report. Thanks to voter support of the library tax, constituents can look forward to this and other improvements in the library system. The historic Laton Library is being renovated; it will go to the Board of Supervisors for approval of plans and to begin the bid process later this summer. The new Kerman library, located at Highway 145 and Kearney Boulevard opposite the town community center, is twice as big as the old storefront. The Sebastian family—which owns the Kerman Phone Co.—contributed \$255,000 for the effort and the city of Kerman donated the land



*At left, patrons eagerly enter new facility. Below, official ribbon cutting.*



*Pictured at the recent ribbon cutting is (from left to right) Fresno County Board of Supervisors Chairman Bob Waterston; Ruth Barcus, her sister Susan, and mother Katey Sebastian; Kerman City Council member Gian Rakkar; Kerman Mayor Trinidad Rodriguez; Council members Nancy Dominguez and Kenneth Moore; and Fresno County Librarian John Kallenberg.*

## Tax dollars at work



Pictured is Fresno County Public Works Engineer (and District 2 resident) Elna Ogden (right side of photo) working on a road maintenance project at Santa Ana and Harrison Avenues, Fresno. Elna is one of many County employees who has found job satisfaction in a non-traditional profession. She is overseeing the work of contract work of Robert Wright

(shown seated in equipment) of Pavement Recycling Systems of Riverside CA. Elna is the first female County Resident Engineer for road and bridge projects. When she isn't out directing road improvements, she can be seen directing, as well as acting, at Roger Rocka's Dinner Theatre and Second Space Theater.

## Jedi master retires from the Force

Back in the year 2000, when Fresno County Probation officer Harry "Jim" Schaffer was named his department's Talented Employee of the Year, he was dubbed Master Yoda because he inevitably schooled many who stepped through the portals of Probation, client and staff alike. After 33 years, he is retiring from County employ, shedding his familiar garb for a Dodger's uniform in devotion to his favorite team. Schaffer, has known Supervisor Anderson since her years in the District Attorney's Office, and has more recently helped her conduct numerous tours of the Juvenile Hall, educating the public on the importance of constructing a new facility.



*Jim Schaffer*

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